

THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF
BURTON LATIMER



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR
1969

F. R. N. LYNCH, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BURTON LATIMER

Chairman of the Council:

J. C. Mackintosh

Public Health Committee:

Chairman - R. W. H. Cooper

D. Long	A. A. Morby
J. C. Mackintosh	A. F. Mutlow, C.C.
W. C. Meads	J. C. Northern
G. Ward	

Clerk to the Council:

C. E. Lansom

Health Department Staff:

Medical Officer of Health:

F. R. N. Lynch, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Also holds the appointment of Medical Officer of Health for:-

Corby, Desborough and Rothwell Urban Districts
and Kettering Rural District.

Assistant County Medical Officer and School Medical Officer.

Acting Medical Officer of Health for Wellingborough and
Irthlingborough Urban Districts and
Wellingborough Rural District.

Secretary:

Miss M. W. Langley

Public Health Inspector and Surveyor:

A. McMillan, Cert. R.S.A.S., M.I.B.E.

C O N T E N T S

	INTRODUCTORY LETTER	Pages 3 - 4
SECTION A	STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA	Page 5
SECTION B	GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA	Page 11
SECTION C	SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA	Page 15
SECTION D	PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING ACTS	Page 22
SECTION E	INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD	Page 26
SECTION F	INFECTIOUS DISEASES	Page 29
	ADMINISTRATION OF FACTORIES ACT	Page 34

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Public Health Department,

75 London Road,

KETTERING.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Urban District Council of Burton
Latimer

June, 1970.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my ninth Annual Report. It also includes the Report of the Surveyor and Public Health Inspector.

The statistics relating to the town of Burton Latimer are entirely satisfactory; details are principally enumerated on pages 6 - 10.

A review of the figures shows that the population of the Urban District has increased by over 1,000 persons in the last five years and now stands at 5,450 (Registrar General's mid-year estimate).

The number of live births occurring during the year was 120. This figure is high for the town. The Crude Birth Rate is 22 per 1,000 population and the Corrected or Adjusted Rate is 22.2. The method of standardisation of the Birth Rate employed is explained on page 10.

The statistics relating to mortality remain virtually static. There is no departure from the ordinary pattern to which the attention of members should be drawn.

Cremation has been employed for disposal of the dead in sixty-nine per cent of the deaths that have occurred during the year.

I desire particularly to draw the attention of the members to the project directed towards the extermination of rats in the County which is fully described on pages 18 - 20.

In addition to the Birth Statistics given at the beginning of this letter, the progressive development of the town is shown also by the amount of house building that has taken place during the year. In all, about one hundred dwellings were either completed or under construction in the calendar year 1969, that is, the period covered by this Report.

At a meeting held at Burton House on 3rd March, 1969, the County Medical Officer of Health stated that the County Council had approved the building of a Health Centre. Accommodation for three surgeries would be provided by the Health Centre in order to cope with the general practice of the town. In addition, the services provided by the County Council, including Child Welfare Clinics, would be conducted at the Centre.

Clearing of the land, allocated for the purpose of the Health Centre in the High Street, began in October and the Architect states that the building will begin as soon as possible.

/Continued

A large number of cases of influenza occurred in the town during December. This high incidence of influenza was part of a nation-wide epidemic and a significant increase in the number of cases for the time of year was observed in the week before Christmas. The peak was reached in the first week of the New Year and the incidence gradually subsided thereafter.

The usual symptoms of the illness were fever, cough, headache, lethargy and aching of the back and legs and its duration was commonly three days.

The causative organism of the influenza epidemic has been isolated and is described as Virus A2/HK/68.

My thanks for their co-operation during the year are due to the members and Clerk of the Council and to Mr. McMillan and Miss Langley who have also been concerned in the preparation of this Report.

My thanks are also due to Dr. J. V. L. Farquhar of Kettering, who has abstracted the official statistics relating to cremation.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

F. R. N. LYNCH

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL
CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

S E C T I O N A

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

Comparative Statistics for the Five-Year Period 1965 to 1969

	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1969</u>
Area of the Urban District (acres)	2,756	2,756	2,756	2,756	2,756
Population (Registrar General's Estimate)	4,460	4,650	4,990	5,270	5,450
Number of Live Births	69	85	91	126	120
Legitimate	62	76	83	120	112
Illegitimate	7	9	8	6	8
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	15.5	18.3	18.2	23.9	22.0
Number of Still Births	-	-	-	4	2
Legitimate	-	-	-	4	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-	-	-
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total births	-	-	-	30.8	16.4
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population	-	-	-	0.8	0.4
Number of Deaths	59	36	41	54	55
Death Rate per 1,000 population	13.2	7.7	8.2	10.3	10.1
Deaths from Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion	-	-	-	-	-
Number of Infant Deaths	1	2	1	4	1
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	14.5	23.5	11.0	31.8	8.3
Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	14.5	11.8	11.0	7.9	8.3
Early Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	14.5	11.8	11.0	7.9	8.3
Perinatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	14.5	11.8	11.0	38.5	24.6
Deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis	1	-	1	-	1
Deaths from Respiratory Tuberculosis	1	-	1	-	-
Deaths from Malignant Neoplasms	9	4	8	9	9
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	-	-	-	-	-
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	-	-	-	-	-
Deaths from Enteritis and Diarrhoea under two years of age	-	-	-	-	-
Deaths from Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	-	-	-	-	-

GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE AREA

AREA (acres)				2,756
CENSUS POPULATION	<u>Year</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	
	1951	2,007	2,104	4,111
	1961	2,139	2,262	4,401
	Increase of 290 = 7.1%			
POPULATION (Registrar General's Mid-Year Estimate 1969)				5,450
NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES (1951)				1,341
	(1961)			1,499
	(1969)			1,912
RATEABLE VALUE (at 31st December 1969)				£204,748
SUM REPRESENTED BY PENNY RATE (1969/70)				£820

SOCIAL CONDITIONS INCLUDING CHIEF OCCUPATIONS OF THE INHABITANTS

The social conditions of the district are satisfactory and at the end of the year the percentage of unemployed in the area was 1.8. The National Rate was 2.7%. Factory work is the chief occupation. The largest firms participate in the production of footwear, cereal food preparation, aluminium utensils and clothing manufacture.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS 1969

<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	55	57	112
Illegitimate	5	3	8
	<u>60</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>120</u>

Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population	22.0
Adjusted Birth Rate (comparability factor 1.01)	22.2

<u>STILL BIRTHS</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	-	2	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>

Rate per 1,000 total births (live and still)	16.4
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DEATHS

Number registered (all causes) ...	30	25	55
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population	10.1
Adjusted Death Rate (comparability factor 1.14) ... ..	...	...	11.5

DEATHS FROM CERTAIN SPECIFIED CAUSES

Cardio-vascular disease (all forms)	14	6	20
Malignant neoplasms (all forms)	3	6	9
Diseases of the respiratory system	4	3	7
Cerebrovascular disease	1	4	5

<u>DEATHS FROM MATERNAL CAUSES</u>	-
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total births	-

<u>DEATHS OF INFANTS</u> (under 1 year)	...	...	...	1	-	1
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	8.3
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	8.9
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	-

<u>DEATHS OF INFANTS</u> (under 4 weeks)	...	...	...	1	-	1
Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	8.3

LIST NO.	CAUSE OF DEATH	TOTAL	SEX	AGE IN YEARS						
				UNDER 4 WEEKS	4 WEEKS- 1 YEAR	1+	35+	45+	55+	65+ 75 & over
B 6	Other Tuberculosis including late effects	1	M			1				
B 19 (3)	Malignant neoplasm - stomach	1	M					1		
B 19 (4)	Malignant neoplasm - intestine	1	M							1
		2	F							2
B 19 (6)	Malignant neoplasm - lung, bronchus	1	M				1			
		1	F							1
B 19 (7)	Malignant neoplasm - breast	3	F		1			2		
B 21	Diabetes mellitus	1	F					1		
B 23	Anaemias	1	M					1		
B 46 (4)	Other diseases of nervous system and sense organs	1	M							1
		1	F	1						
B 27	Hypertensive disease	1	M							1
		1	F							1
B 28	Ischaemic heart disease	1	M							1
		1	F							1
B 29	Other forms of heart disease	2	M			2				2
		2	F							2
B 30	Cerebrovascular disease	1	M							1
		4	F							4
B 46 (5)	Other diseases of circulatory system	2	F							2
B 31	Influenza	1	M							1
B 32	Pneumonia	1	M							1
		2	F				1			
B 33 (1)	Bronchitis, emphysema	2	M					1		
		1	F							1
B 39	Hyperplasia of prostate	1	M							1
B 46 (8)	Other diseases of genito-urinary system	2	F					1		2
B 46 (10)	Diseases of musculo-skeletal system and connective tissue	1	F							1
B 42	Congenital anomalies	1	M							
B 47	Motor vehicle accidents	1	M						1	
		1	F			1				
B 48	All other accidents	1	M					1		
B 49	Suicide & self-inflicted injuries	1	M					1		
		1	F							
	T O T A L S	30						5	5	9
		25				1	2			4
										10
										18

COMMENTS ON VITAL STATISTICS

1. POPULATION

The Registrar General's mid-year estimate of the population (1969) was 5,450, 180 more than the mid-year estimate for 1968. In the census, which was taken on 23rd April, 1961, the population figure was found to be 4,401.

2. BIRTHS

There were 120 live births in 1969, 6 less than in the previous year. This gives a crude birth rate of 22.0 per 1,000 population. This rate, standardised on the basis of the age and sex composition of the population, gives an adjusted rate of 22.2. The adjusted, or corrected, birth rate is obtained by multiplying the crude rate by a figure known as the Comparability Factor. The factor for Burton Latimer is 1.01. The adjusted birth rate of 22.2 compares with the rate of 24.2 for 1968 and the provisional crude rate for England and Wales of 16.3 per 1,000 population.

3. DEATHS

There were 55 deaths from all causes in 1969, 1 more than in 1968, giving a crude death rate of 10.1 and an adjusted death rate of 11.5. The Comparability Factor in this case for Burton Latimer is 1.14; the provisional death rate for England and Wales is 11.9.

4. DISPOSAL OF THE DEAD

Of the 55 deaths during the year, 38 bodies were disposed of by cremation at Kettering Borough Crematorium, giving a percentage of 69.1.

5. INFANTILE MORTALITY

There was one death of an infant under one year of age; this was also a neonatal death (i.e. occurring in the first month of life). The infant mortality rate is 8.3, the neonatal rate is also 8.3 and the corresponding rates for England and Wales are 18.0 and 12.0. I append herewith details of this death:-

<u>Age</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Cause of Death</u>
5 days	M	Cardio-respiratory failure. Congenital Malformation of Heart. Aortic Stenosis. (Autopsy)

6. STILL BIRTHS

There were two still births during the year, giving a rate of 16.4 per 1,000 total births. The rate for England and Wales is 13.0.

<u>Sex</u>	<u>Cause</u>
F	Placental Insufficiency. Diabetes.
F	Anencephaly.

7. MATERNAL MORTALITY

There were again no deaths classed to pregnancy or childbirth.

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF

HEALTH SERVICES

FOR THE AREA

S E C T I O N B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

In subsequent sections, full details will be found relating to infectious diseases and environmental health within the Urban District, for which services the Council is directly responsible.

The present section is related to those health services which concern more the personal health and welfare of the individual, rather than public health and the community. The Health Committee of the Northamptonshire County Council is responsible for the administration of many of these services under Part III of the 1946 National Health Service Act.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

The Public Health Laboratory, Northampton is available for the examination of specimens in connection with the diagnosis and control of infectious diseases.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

This is one of the services for which the County Council is responsible and is operated from Kettering Ambulance Station. In addition, the St. John Ambulance Brigade operate an ambulance which is used in connection with the work of the Brigade.

DOMICILIARY SERVICES

These include District Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors, who are all highly trained, qualified nurses on the staff of the County Medical Officer. The Home Help Service, also provided by the County Council is proving more and more valuable in relieving people of domestic worries during periods of illness or confinement, and in helping old folks to remain in their own houses, so that they can retain their treasured independence.

CHILD WELFARE CENTRE

A clinic is held on the first and third Wednesday in every month at the Baptist Church, Meeting Lane. These clinics are busy and their popularity is largely due to the enthusiasm and dedicated work of the Voluntary Committee. A Medical Officer attends both of these sessions. In accordance with the policy of the County Health Department, a clinic, which provides facilities for the teaching of parentcraft and relaxation to expectant mothers, is held on each Monday afternoon at 3.00 p.m. in the Methodist Church Room, Duke Street.

Welfare foods (National dried milk, cod liver oil, orange juice, etc.) are distributed at the Child Welfare Clinic.

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

Immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough, poliomyelitis and tetanus and vaccination against smallpox are free services, available either from the family doctor or at the County Child Welfare Clinics. Certain age groups of children can also be given B.C.G. vaccination to protect against tuberculosis; this is done through the School Health Service.

A vaccine for the protection of infants against measles is now available and, in accordance with the policy of the County Health Department, a campaign for the control of and it is hoped, ultimate eradication of this disease, was commenced in the autumn of 1968.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS

- | | | |
|----------------------|---|---|
| (a) Chest clinic | - | Out-patient Department, General Hospital,
Kettering - Friday, 9.00 a.m., 2nd and 4th
Monday in the month at 1.30 p.m. |
| (b) Venereal Disease | - | Out-patient Department, General Hospital,
Kettering - Tuesday, Females 4.30 - 5.30 p.m.
Males 5.30 - 6.30 p.m. |

Clinics are held weekly and treatment is provided by the Oxford Regional Hospital Board.

OLD PEOPLE'S WELFARE COMMITTEE

This Committee, which has been established for over seventeen years, is made up of representatives of local organisations and also members of the Council. Amongst other things, the Committee organises a Darby and Joan Club which meets every week, the more infirm members being taken to and from the Club by a special bus. The Club has a nominal membership of 140, which represents about a quarter of the pensioners in the town, although the average attendance at the weekly Club is only about 65.

During the summer of 1969, two half-day outings and one whole-day outing were arranged and visits were made to four shows during the winter. In May, 51 members went to Southsea under the Committee's own holiday scheme; no members participated in the County Holiday Scheme.

During 1969, 1,316 treatments were given by the chiropody service, which was inaugurated eight years ago for the benefit of all old age pensioners in the district. A chiropodist gave 619 treatments in 30 visits at a room set aside for the purpose at Burton House. A further 506 treatments were given at his own surgery at Kettering or at the surgeries of other chiropodists. Also during the year, 191 domiciliary treatments were given. As from 1st January 1969, chiropodists charges were increased from 10s. 6d. to 12s. 0d. for each surgery treatment and from 17s. 0d. to 19s. 0d. for each domiciliary treatment. Since the inception of the scheme, the charge to each elderly patient remained at 2s. 6d. per treatment until 1st July 1969 when it was increased to 3s. 6d. per treatment; in spite of this increase, the service is still greatly appreciated and the number of patients and treatments increases.

OLD PEOPLE'S WELFARE COMMITTEE (continued)

In 1965 the W.R.V.S. at Burton Latimer was re-formed with a view to starting a meals-on-wheels service for the benefit of elderly people living alone. This service now supplies twenty-four meals every Tuesday and Thursday and they are prepared at the canteen of a local factory. The recipients pay 1s. 0d. per meal, which is subsidised at the rate of 6d. from the County Council and 6d. from the Urban District Council; each meal is also subsidised by the factory management concerned by the sum of 1ld.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 - 1951 - SECTION 47

These Acts empower local authorities to require the compulsory admission to hospital in certain cases of persons in need of care and attention.

No formal action was taken under this Section of these Acts during the year.

Several persons were visited in connection with this Section. Admission to hospital was arranged in one case and admission to residential Welfare Accommodation in another, without invoking the legal procedure of the Acts. The remaining cases were dealt with by increasing the amount of domestic support and domiciliary help which they were receiving.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

OF THE AREA

SECTION C

WATER SUPPLY

The water supply to Burton Latimer comes from Pitsford Reservoir where the raw water is filtered and softened before distribution takes place. The supply as regards quality and quantity was maintained throughout the district during 1969.

During the year there was no contamination in the town's supply and no plumbo solvent action.

The Mid-Northamptonshire Water Board carried out the following bacteriological examinations of the water in 1969:-

	<u>No.</u>
Pitsford Raw Water	75
Pitsford Sedimented Water	4
Pitsford Final Water	93
Bulk supply from the Great Ouse Water Authority sampled at Hannington Reservoir	39
From distribution system in Burton Latimer	10

The results of these analyses were satisfactory.

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS

Chemical analyses of final water, taken from the laboratory tap at Pitsford, indicated a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes. A similar sample of final water, taken from Hannington Booster Station, was also suitable for public supply purposes.

Both samples are moderately hard in character.

FLUORIDE CONTENT OF THE WATER SUPPLY

The fluoride content of the water determination in 1969 showed 0.25 parts of naturally occurring Fluorine per million parts of water.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE DISPOSAL

The Council's Consultant Engineers are busy preparing a scheme for the provision of a new storm water drainage system proposed to be carried out as a phased operation.

It is anticipated that work on the first phase will commence in October next year. The first area to be dealt with will be Church Street and part of the High Street.

HOUSE REFUSE COLLECTION

There is a weekly refuse collection in the town and this service was maintained in an efficient manner throughout the year.

The labour force necessary to carry out this work remained relatively stable and, when vacancies do occur, an effort is made to recruit younger employees for this type of work. The present high employment rate in the district makes the task of recruiting suitable replacements (when they are needed), rather difficult and, in some instances, we just have to take whoever we can get at the time. I do not think this problem affects this town only, but is a general problem in the country, particularly in the highly industrialised Midlands in which Burton Latimer is situated.

The vehicle used for refuse collection gave some mechanical trouble for a period and it was necessary to hire alternative transport at this time.

Household refuse is disposed of at Buccleuch Quarry which is situated approximately one mile south-east of the town centre. The Council has a lease of the ground from Richard Thomas & Baldwins Ltd.

The tip consists of old ironstone workings and there is ample capacity for many years to come, provided that no serious nuisances arise.

A Council workman is engaged part-time at the tip, levelling and spreading the household and other refuse when it is tipped, and this service has proved to be highly successful. Controlled tipping is carried out. When the need arises, mechanical equipment is hired to carry out a certain amount of levelling.

The tip was treated for rats three times during the year.

STREET CLEANSING

There are some 11.86 miles of roads in the urban area and the Council is responsible for cleansing all of these roads. Out of this total, there are approximately 6.13 miles of trunk roads, Class A roads and Class III roads which the Council cleanses on behalf of the Northamptonshire County Council. Two Council workmen are engaged full-time on this work.

The town is split up into areas or beats and a set area is treated daily. The road sweepings are deposited at various small depots distributed throughout the town and these sweepings are then collected at regular intervals by the refuse vehicle and deposited at the tip.

GULLIES

There are 563 gullies in the area and a gully emptying firm carry out the emptying of them by mechanical means once in every three months. Previously, this work was done partly by mechanical means and partly by hand. Since its inception, the new arrangement has been an undoubted success. The material removed from the gullies is deposited at the refuse tip where it is used as a top dressing for the household refuse.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

There are two toilet blocks in the town with facilities for both sexes. The toilets have been reasonably free from vandalism this year. It is to be hoped that this trend will continue. In an effort to stamp out vandalism, the Council has offered a reward of £5 to anyone giving information leading to a successful conviction.

A full-time attendant would be the answer, but a town of this size could not afford the services of such a person.

LITTER ACT

The varied extensive publicity campaigns, arranged to combat and publicise the litter problem, do not appear to have done a great deal of good when one looks at the litter thrown down.

In order to make some contribution towards reducing the amount of litter being discarded on the public thoroughfare, a number of brightly painted litter bins have been installed at various locations throughout the area.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Thirty-two treatments have been carried out in private and local authority houses and some business premises during the year.

The refuse tip was given three treatments during the year.

Sixty-nine foul sewer manholes were treated for rats. In two of these, partial takes were observed. Re-baiting of the affected manholes was carried out, but no further evidence of takes was noticed.

A serious infestation of mice was successfully brought under control at a recently established pet shop. Mice established themselves in the first floor of the shop where animal food stuffs are stored.

The food stuffs were not being stored in suitable sealed containers and far too much spillage of this material was being allowed to be on shelves and on the floor. This point and other matters which required attention were brought to the notice of the shop owner.

Before the infestation was brought under control, the mice managed to get into an adjoining house and the householder and his young family experienced some inconvenience.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE RAT CONTROL COMMITTEE

At a meeting held in Kettering on 24th April, 1969, chaired by Mr. J. T. Shuttleworth, Chairman of Kettering Rural District Council, and attended by representatives of the National Farmers' Union, Officers and Members of Local Authorities and Officers of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, it was decided to set up a Steering Committee to guide a full-scale rat baiting campaign to commence in the County on 24th November, 1969.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE RAT CONTROL COMMITTEE (continued)

The Medical Officer of Health was appointed to sit on this Committee and the Campaign, which also included Leicester and Rutland, was launched towards the end of the year.

Widespread instruction by means of suitable publicity and demonstrations was given by officers of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

The project was supported with enthusiasm by many farmers.

Results of Rat Baiting on Farms following 24th November 1969 Field Staff of the Ministry have made enquiries at 588 farms in the three counties. This was about $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of the total number of holdings. Of these holdings, 476 had taken control action at or around 24th November, 1969, and of the 112 who had not taken control action, 53 had no rats on the premises. The balance of 59 represented 10 per cent of total farmers who did not take any action. 353 holdings were able to provide details of bait used and this totalled 96 cwts. 40 lbs. averaging $30\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. per holding.

It is disappointing to note that only 83 farmers had taken control action in hedgerows. Ministry Field Staff have reported several such infestations during their normal farm visits.

Permanent baiting was again somewhat disappointing; 249 farmers reported that they had carried out some form of permanent baiting but this did not include baiting hedgerows in many instances.

At subsequent meetings technical papers on various subjects were presented by members of the Steering Committee and included one entitled "Rat Borne Infections" presented by the Medical Officer of Health, a summary of which is given here.

"Rat Borne Infections" by F. R. N. Lynch The speaker began by saying that the rat we were considering was *Rattus Norvegicus*, or the Brown Rat which superseded the small Black Rat, *Rattus Rattus*, in this country during the 18th Century.

The Black Rat had been responsible for the great plagues of the Middle Ages, e.g. the Black Death of the 14th Century and the Plague of 1665.

Rattus Norvegicus was responsible for the spread of many diseases, e.g. Rat-bite Fevers, Trichinosis, Haemorrhagic Jaundice and Salmonellosis in human epidemiology and Equine Influenza and possibly Foot and Mouth Disease in veterinary medicine.

He said he wished to deal with only two of these conditions, Salmonellosis (Food Poisoning) and Weil's Disease or Haemorrhagic Jaundice.

As is the case with Bubonic Plague and the Black Rat, these two diseases were first of all epizootic in the Brown Rat before being communicated to the human population.

"Rat Borne Infections" by F. R. N. Lynch (continued)

The genus Salmonellae, named after the American Bacteriologist, Salmon, contained about 400 species. Some bore people's names as S thompson, some the names of places as S dublin, and some names of diseases with which they were associated, e.g. S typhimurium and S enteritidis. The last two were very frequently associated with rats.

The source of infection in man was usually of animal origin, e.g. the droppings of infected rodents which could in turn infect food of man or food animals used by man so that cattle and other livestock, including ducks and turkeys could be infected in this way.

The stools of patients and convalescent carriers were also sources of infection. Duck eggs were often implicated, infection entering the shell during its formation in the oviduct.

The speaker went on to say that the role of the rat in the dissemination of Salmonella was very clearly established. It was a most important cause of the spread of this condition. Nearly 10,000 cases of human salmonella infection were notified in England and Wales in 1968. The disease would spread rapidly through a community, particularly when hygiene was not perfect, and the Medical Officer must by law prohibit persons engaged in the food trade from carrying on their business if they get the disease. The reason for this was that the stools of patients were also sources of infection. Food poisoning salmonellae multiplies rapidly in food.

As for the disease itself, the onset was acute generally with diarrhoea, abdominal cramps, fever, vomiting and prostration.

Contaminated meat could be derived from an animal infected during its life or it might come from a healthy animal and be contaminated in the course of preparation. Milk might be infected from an infected udder or from infected dung.

At the present time, although a large number of cases of the disease occurred in a year, it was not often the cause of death and in the series quoted, only 20 - 25 cases proved fatal.

A dozen or so Veterinary Bacteriological Reports concerning the isolation of salmonellae in animals used for human food were read.

A case report describing direct infection of a farmer with salmonellosis communicated from a rat was read.

A case report concerning the occurrence of Weil's Disease, in a young man of 28 years old, in November 1969 was read. About 50 cases were notified in a year and of these, half were fatal. The mode of transmission was the infected urine of a rat entering a skin abrasion or cut in a human.

MORTUARY

There is a stone-built bier house at the old cemetery which is used as a mortuary if or when required. This was not used during the year.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1961

There are eighteen factories in the District. Routine inspections are carried out.

At 1st August there were forty-three outworkers living in Burton Latimer. Most of the work done by these outworkers is in connection with local industries, such as the shoe and clothing trades. Routine inspections were carried out and no contraventions of the Act were found.

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1961 are to be found at the end of the Report.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The general provisions of this Act came into force on 1st August 1964 and premises already in use on 1st May 1964 were required to register between that date and 31st July 1964.

The total number of registered premises at the end of the year was thirty-three, an increase of one on the figure for last year. The total number of persons employed in registered premises is as follows:-

<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
47	65

Despite a most extensive publicity campaign which the Department of Labour and Productivity gave this Act prior to its inception, it has been found in many cases that owners and/or occupiers do not realise their obligations under the Act. This refers particularly to display of notices for the information of employees.

Inspections under the Act are being carried out and any irregularities found are being intimated in writing to the persons concerned. 80% of all the premises registered have been inspected. This figure is above the average for the whole country.

SECTION D

PUBLIC HEALTH

AND

HOUSING ACTS

SECTION D

PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING ACTS

The Council has built in all 532 dwellings of one kind or another since 1921, and has reconditioned 3 old ones, making a total of 535 dwellings, approximately one third of the total dwellings in the town. A total of 31 dwellings built by the Council have been sold to tenants.

There are few, if any, unfit houses still to be dealt with. It is pleasing to note that there is no slum clearance problem in Burton Latimer and the present position with regard to demolitions and clearance is very satisfactory.

Since the original slum clearance programme was submitted to the Minister of Housing and Local Government in July 1955, 177 unfit houses have been listed, although the majority of these could hardly be regarded as slum properties in the real sense of the term.

The 177 properties have been dealt with as follows:-

Demolished	140
Closed	32
Still occupied	5
	<hr/>
	177
	<hr/>

Of the 32 properties closed, 14 are being used, with the Council's consent, for non-residential purposes, leaving 18 others still to be demolished and cleared along with one property at present being used as a store. Of the five still occupied, the tenants are likely to be rehoused in the fairly near future and clearance in most cases should soon follow.

Looking towards the future, the Council is in the comfortable position of having no serious housing problem left on its hands and there is, therefore, no immediate need for any large scale projects to be put in hand. However, this need not stop the Council from thinking about future schemes. In fact, one small scheme is being prepared for the erection of six one-bedroom flats and one detached two-bedroom bungalow. The development is being used to fill in a small gap site in conjunction with a small road improvement scheme.

83 houses and/or bungalows were completed by private enterprise. 15 houses/bungalows were under construction at the end of the year.

Progress on private building slowed down considerably. A major contributing factor is undoubtedly the present high rates of interest being charged on mortgages and the difficulty intending borrowers are having in raising the necessary deposits.

HOUSING ACT, 1969

The provision of this Act set out to deal with the problem exposed by the 1967 Survey when it was shown that at that time there were more unfit and sub-standard houses than ever before. 3.7 million houses needed repairs and 2.3 million lacked one or more of the basic amenities. The Act approaches the problem in three ways.

Part 1 of the Act provides for three different types of grant:-

- (a) Improvement Grant of up to £1,000. This is still to remain discretionary and is intended to cover works of a high all-round level for the improvement and repair of existing dwellings with an expected fitness for habitation of 15 years or more and which would require more than the provision of standard amenities. This grant also covers the provision of dwellings by the conversion into flats of a house or building of three or more storeys. For such improvement the maximum grant will be £1,200. The grant will represent 50% of the approved works with the maximum as shown.
- (b) Standard Grant of up to £200 (£450 in special cases), obtainable by owners as of right for the installation in their dwelling of standard amenities which it lacks. The dwelling should have an expected fitness for habitation of 15 years or more.

A local authority may, in approving a standard grant application, require that the works specified in the application are carried out within a specified time which must be at least twelve months or within such further time as the authority may allow.

The new grant code is designed to apply to a very wide range of housing conditions and is, therefore, limited by a minimum of statutory requirements. As much as possible is left to the local authority's judgement, subject to directions given by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

Eight standard grants were paid out during the year.

It is estimated that there are approximately 220 houses suitable for improvement in the town. No street by street schemes have as yet been carried out.

The Council continued through the medium of its Broadsheet to draw attention to these grants and to remind owners and occupiers of their existence, particularly the increase in the new scale of grants being made available.

Twenty houses were demolished during the year, mainly to make way for a new Health Centre, Library and ultimately a Fire Station.

There are 102 applicants for Council houses on the list.

CARAVANS

There are four licensed sites in the town. No trouble has been experienced with them.

Town and Country Planning approval was granted in respect of the extension and improvement to one of the sites. The issue of a permanent approval for this site will enable the Council to impose much more stringent conditions with the issue of a site licence under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no common lodging houses in the town.

PETROLEUM (REGULATIONS) ACTS, 1928 and 1936

There are five petrol stations where petrol is for sale.

21 licences were issued under these regulations.

HOUSE INSPECTIONS BY THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

The Medical Officer of Health inspected two Council houses in December at the request of the Public Health Committee of the Urban District Council. Details of these inspections will be found in the minutes of the Public Health Committee.

In the first case, that of a house in Poplar Road, it was found that the general state of the house and decoration was good but that there was some condensation in the kitchen which, in the opinion of the Medical Officer of Health, was due to the tenant's son and his wife using the living room as a bedroom thus causing lack of through ventilation. The Medical Officer of Health recommended the Council to give priority consideration to the rehousing of this young couple.

The second case was that of a house in Spinney Road which had previously been inspected and which the Medical Officer of Health now reported to be in good condition and excellent decorative order.

SECTION E

INSPECTION AND

SUPERVISION OF FOOD

S E C T I O N E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

There is no registered private slaughterhouse in the district. The butchers in the town make their own arrangements for this service and this arrangement appears to be working quite satisfactorily.

The following tinned food was condemned during the year:-

Tinned meat and meat portions	131lbs. 7 ozs.
Tinned fish, fruit and vegetables	79lbs. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ ozs.
Sundries	7lbs. 9 ozs.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

The following is an extract of a report by the Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures on samples taken in the Urban District in the twelve months ending 31st March, 1969.

<u>Sample</u>	<u>No.</u>
Milk	15
Bread	1
Castor Oil B.P.	1
Fruit Salad	1
Ice Cream	1
Jam	1
Margarine	1
Meat Products	5
Mixed Vegetables	1
Shrimps	1
Spirits	2
Zinc and Castor Oil Cream B.P.	1
<hr/>	
Total	31
<hr/>	

All the samples which had been taken in the Urban District during the year were reported as genuine by the Public Analyst and called for no particular comment.

MILK SUPPLY

This district is a designated area and all milk sold must be pasteurised sterilised or tuberculin tested.

One dairy is registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1960

(a) There are twenty-six shops and three canteens which are affected by these regulations. Inspections are carried out. These food premises are as follows:-

Type of Premises	No. of Premises	No. of Premises complying with Regulation 16	No. of Premises to which Regulation 19 applies	No. of Premises complying with Regulation 19
Fish and chip shops	2	1	2	2
Retail butchers	4	2	3	3
Wholesale warehouses	1	1	1	1
General stores	2	0	1	1
Confectioners	1	1	1	1
Canteens	3	3	3	3
Retail grocers	16	11	16	16

(b) It was necessary for me to visit a retail food premises in Regent Road in November, which had been the subject of complaints concerning defective hygiene. An undertaking was obtained from the retailer that he would take steps to bring the premises up to the standard required by the Regulations. I informed him that surveillance would continue to ensure that the desired standard was achieved and maintained.

POULTRY INSPECTION

There are no poultry processing premises within the District.

SECTION F

PREVALENCE OF
AND CONTROL OVER
INFECTIOUS DISEASES

SECTION F

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES

There were twenty-nine cases of infectious disease (other than Tuberculosis) notified to me during 1969, compared with twenty-eight cases in the previous year.

MEASLES

Eighteen cases were recorded as against thirteen in 1968.

DIPHTHERIA, WHOOPING COUGH AND TETANUS

Routine immunisation of infants under one year of age with triple antigen was continued during the year. Immunisation is carried out either by the family doctor or at the County Health Department's bimonthly clinics at Meeting Lane.

WHOOPING COUGH

No case occurred in 1969 compared with ten cases in 1968.

POLIOMYELITIS

This is the fourth disease which is prevented by routine immunisation in infancy. This is again done either by the family doctor or at the County Health Department's clinics. No cases occurred.

GASTRO-INTESTINAL DISEASES

No cases of Salmonella or Dysentery were reported in 1969.

INFECTIOUS HEPATITIS

Ten cases, involving four households, were reported in 1969. There was 1 case in the previous year.

SMALLPOX

Forty-six International Certificates of Vaccination were authenticated by me in order to comply with the International Sanitary Regulations for people who were travelling abroad.

LEPROSY

The Public Health (Leprosy) Regulations, 1966 came into force on 1st March 1966.

Under these regulations, cases of Leprosy are now notifiable to the District Medical Officer of Health. No notifications of leprosy were received.

TUBERCULOSIS

One case of non-respiratory tuberculosis was notified during the year. One case of respiratory tuberculosis transferred into the district and the patient died later in the year. Two cases were removed from the register as healed.

The table shows the number of known cases of tuberculosis in the district as at 31st December 1969:-

Tuberculosis	Males	Females	Total
Respiratory	5	-	5
Non-Respiratory	2	2	4
T O T A L	7	2	9

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925

These regulations empower the Council to prevent persons suffering from tuberculosis to engage in the milk trade. No action was taken during the year.

INFLUENZA

A large number of cases of Influenza occurred in the town during December. This high incidence of Influenza was part of a nation-wide epidemic and a significant increase in the number of cases for the time of the year was observed in the week before Christmas. The peak was reached in the first week of the New Year and the incidence gradually subsided.

The usual symptoms of the illness were:- fever, cough, headache, lethargy and aching of the back and legs and its duration was commonly three days.

The causative organism of the Influenza epidemic has been isolated and is described as Virus A2/HK/68.

TUBERCULOSIS

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1969

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 34	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 44	1*	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
45 - 54	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
55 - 64	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 +	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	-

* Inward Transfer

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) 1969

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Measles	6	6	4	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18
Infectious Hepatitis	-	1	7	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
Scarlet Fever	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Totals	6	8	11	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29

AGE INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) 1969

Disease	0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65+	All Ages	Removed Hospital	Deaths
Measles	3	-	7	3	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	-	-
Infectious Hepatitis	-	-	1	-	-	3	2	2	-	2	-	-	10	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Totals	3	-	8	3	3	6	2	2	-	2	-	-	29	-	-

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OF THE
YEAR 1962 FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT OF BURTON LATIMER IN THE COUNTY OF NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

PREScribed PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1961

PART I OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health

Premises (1)	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspection (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	-	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	18	18	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	-	-	-	-
T o t a l	18	18	-	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
T o t a l	-	-	-	-	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT - OUTWORK
(SECTIONS 110 AND 111)

Nature of Work (1)	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out- workers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of pros- ecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in un- wholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prose- cutions (7)
Wearing } Making etc. apparel } Cleaning & } Washing	43	-	-	-	-	-
Household linen	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lace, lace curtains and nets	-	-	-	-	-	-
Curtains and furni- ture hangings	-	-	-	-	-	-
Furniture and upholstery	-	-	-	-	-	-
Electro-plate	-	-	-	-	-	-
File making	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brass and brass articules	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fur pulling	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iron and steel cables & chains	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iron and steel anchors & grapnels	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cart gear	-	-	-	-	-	-
Locks, keys and latches	-	-	-	-	-	-
Umbrellas, etc.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Artificial flowers	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nets, other than wire nets	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tents	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sacks	-	-	-	-	-	-
Racquets and tennis balls	-	-	-	-	-	-

(Continued)

Nature of Work (1)	Section 110			Section 111		
	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Paper bags	-	-	-	-	-	-
The making of boxes or other recep- tacles or parts thereof made wholly or par- tially of paper	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brush making	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pea picking	-	-	-	-	-	-
Feather sorting	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carding, etc. of buttons, etc.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stuffed toys	-	-	-	-	-	-
Basket making	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chocolates and sweetmeats	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cosaques, Christmas stockings, etc.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Textile weaving	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lampshades	-	-	-	-	-	-
T O T A L	43	-	-	-	-	-

F. R. N. LYNCH

Medical Officer of Health

